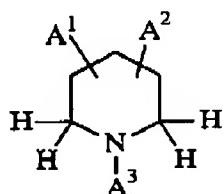


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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

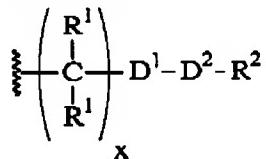
Claims 1-16. (*Previously Cancelled*).

Claim 17. (*Currently amended*) A compound having the structure:



or an optical isomer, diastereomer, enantiomer, or pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or amide, ester, or imide susceptible to being cleaved *in vivo* by a mammalian subject to yield the compound, wherein:

- (a) A¹ and A² are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a group having the structure:

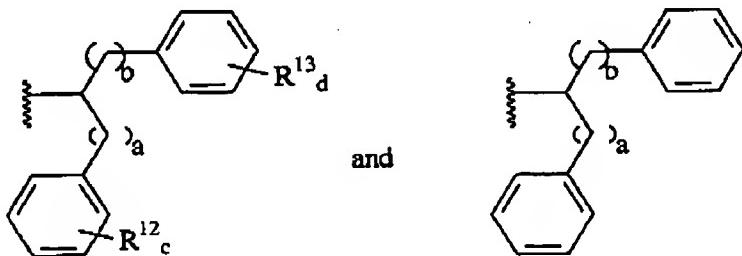


with the proviso that at A¹ and A² are not both hydrogen atoms, and wherein:

- (i) each R¹ is independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a hydroxyl group, a hydrocarbon group, a substituted hydrocarbon group, a heterogeneous group, a substituted heterogeneous group, a carbocyclic group, a substituted carbocyclic group, a heterocyclic group, a substituted heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, a substituted aromatic group, a heteroaromatic group, and a substituted heteroaromatic group;
- (ii) x is 0 or 1;

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(iii) each R² is independently selected from the group consisting of:

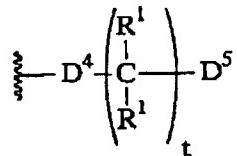


wherein:

- (a) a is at least 2;
- (b) b is at least 2;
- (c) c is 1 to 3;
- (d) d is 1 to 3; and
- (e) R¹² and R¹³ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrocarbon groups and substituted hydrocarbon groups; and

(iv) D¹ and D² are each independently selected from the group consisting of -C(O)- and -NH- ; with the proviso that wherein when D¹ is -NH- then D² is -C(O)-, and wherein when D² is -NH- then D¹ is -C(O)-;

(b) A³ has the structure:



wherein:

- (i) each R¹ is independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a hydroxyl group;
- (ii) t is from 0 to 6;
- (iii) D⁴ is -CH(R¹)- ;

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(iv) D^5 is $-OR^6$; and

(v) R^6 is selected from the group consisting of a carbocyclic group, a substituted carbocyclic group, an aromatic group, and a substituted aromatic group.

Claim 18. (*Previously added*) The compound according to Claim 17 wherein x is 1.

Claim 19. (*Previously added*) The compound according to claim 17 wherein x is 0.

Claim 20. (*Previously added*) The compound according to Claim 19 wherein D^1 is $-C(O)-$ and D^2 is $-NH-$.

Claim 21. (*Previously added*) The compound according to Claim 17 wherein D^1 is $-C(O)-$ and D^2 is $-NH-$.

Claim 22. (*Previously added*) The compound according to Claim 17 wherein D^1 is $-NH-$ and D^2 is $-C(O)-$.

Claim 23. (*Previously amended*) The compound according to Claim 17 wherein t is 0 to 2.

Claim 24. (*Previously added*) The compound according to Claim 17 wherein R^6 is a substituted aromatic group.

Claim 25. (*Previously added*) A composition comprising:

- (a) the compound according to Claim 1; and
- (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 26. (*Previously added*) A method selected from the group consisting of treating multidrug resistance, inhibiting transport protein activity, and combinations thereof, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment or inhibition an effective amount of the composition according to Claim 2